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Spectrum of Volterra integral operator of the second kind

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Abstract. The article addresses the singular Volterra integral equation of the second kind, which has the 'incompressible' kernel. It is shown that the corresponding homogeneous equation on $|\lambda| \geq \exp\{|\arg \lambda|\}$, $\arg \lambda \in [-\pi, \pi]$ has a continuous spectrum, and the multiplicity of the characteristic numbers grows with increasing $|\lambda|$. We use the Carleman-Vekua regularization method. We introduce the characteristic integral equation. We prove that the initial integral equation has eigenfunctions, the multiplicity of which depends on the value of the spectral parameter λ . We prove the solvability theorem of the nonhomogeneous equation in a case when the right-hand side of the equation belongs to a certain class.

Keywords: Volterra integral equation, Spectrum, Eigenfunction

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INTRODUCTION

In this paper we consider the singular Volterra integral equation with spectral parameter $\lambda \in \mathbf{C}$ of form

$$\varphi(t) - \lambda \int_0^t K(t, \tau) \varphi(\tau) d\tau = f(t), \quad t > 0, \quad (1)$$

where

$$K(t, \tau) = K^{(1)}(t, \tau) + K^{(2)}(t, \tau), \quad (2)$$

$$K^{(1)}(t, \tau) = \frac{1}{2a\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{t^\omega + \tau^\omega}{(t-\tau)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \exp\left(-\frac{(t^\omega + \tau^\omega)^2}{4a^2(t-\tau)}\right), \quad (3)$$

$$K^{(2)}(t, \tau) = \frac{1}{2a\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{t^\omega - \tau^\omega}{(t-\tau)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \exp\left(-\frac{(t^\omega - \tau^\omega)^2}{4a^2(t-\tau)}\right), \quad \omega > 1/2. \quad (4)$$

We call such equations as the Volterra integral equations with 'incompressible' kernel [1]. It is shown that the corresponding homogeneous equation on $|\lambda| \geq \exp\{|\arg \lambda|\}$, $\arg \lambda \in [-\pi, \pi]$ has a continuous spectrum, and the multiplicity of the characteristic numbers grows with increasing $|\lambda|$. We use the Carleman-Vekua regularization method. We introduce the characteristic integral equation. We prove that the initial integral equation has eigenfunctions, the multiplicity of which depends on the value of the spectral parameter λ . We prove the solvability theorem of the non-homogeneous equation (1)–(4) in a case when the right-hand side of the equation belongs to a certain class.

PROPERTIES OF THE KERNEL $K(t, \tau)$ (2)–(4)

The kernel $K(t, \tau)$ (2)–(4) has the following properties:

1) $K(t, \tau) \geq 0$ and is continuous on $0 < \tau \leq t < \infty$;

2) $\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \int_{t_0}^t K(t, \tau) d\tau = 0, t_0 \geq \varepsilon > 0$;

3) $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \int_0^t K(t, \tau) d\tau = 1, \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^t K(t, \tau) d\tau = 1$.

The feature of equation (1) in question consists in property 3) of the kernel $K(t, \tau)$ and is expressed in the fact that the corresponding nonhomogeneous equation can not be solved by the successive approximations method for $|\lambda| \geq \exp\{|\arg \lambda|\}$, $\arg \lambda \in [-\pi, \pi]$. Obviously, if $|\lambda| < \exp\{|\arg \lambda|\}$, $\arg \lambda \in [-\pi, \pi]$ then equation (1) has a unique solution, that can be found by the successive approximations method. The case when $\lambda \in \mathbf{C}$ and $\omega = 1$ was considered in [1]. In this paper we assume that $|\lambda| \geq \exp\{|\arg \lambda|\}$, $\arg \lambda \in [-\pi, \pi]$ and $\omega > 1/2$.

The property 3) of kernel $K(t, \tau)$ (2)–(4) follows from the next lemmas.

Lemma 1 *If $\omega > \frac{1}{2}$, then $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0_0} \int_0^t K^{(1)}(t, \tau) d\tau = 1$.*

Lemma 2 *If $\omega > \frac{1}{2}$, then $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0_0} \int_0^t K^{(2)}(t, \tau) d\tau = 0$.*

Lemma 3 *If $\omega > \frac{1}{2}$, then $t^{3/2-\omega} \int_0^t \frac{K^{(1)}(t, \tau)}{\tau^{3/2-\omega}} d\tau < C$, $0 < t < \infty$.*

Lemma 4 *If $\omega > \frac{1}{2}$, then $t^{3/2-\omega} \int_0^t \frac{K^{(2)}(t, \tau)}{\tau^{3/2-\omega}} d\tau < C(\omega)$, $0 < t < \infty$.*

THE CHARACTERISTIC INTEGRAL EQUATION

According to the Carleman-Vekua regularization method we prove that for equation (1) the next integral equation

$$\varphi(t) - \lambda \int_0^t K_0(t, \tau) \varphi(\tau) d\tau = F(t) \quad (5)$$

is characteristic, where

$$K_0(t, \tau) = \frac{1}{2a\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{(2\omega - 1)^{3/2} t^{4\omega-3}}{(t^{2\omega-1} - \tau^{2\omega-1})^{3/2}} \exp \left[-\frac{2\omega - 1}{4a^2} \frac{(t^{2\omega-1} + \tau^{2\omega-1})^2}{t^{2\omega-1} - \tau^{2\omega-1}} \right], \quad \omega > 1/2, \quad (6)$$

$$F(t) = f(t) - \lambda \int_0^t [K_1(t, \tau) + K^{(2)}(t, \tau)] \varphi(\tau) d\tau, \quad (7)$$

$$K_1(t, \tau) = K_0(t, \tau) - K^{(1)}(t, \tau). \quad (8)$$

This follows from the assertions of Lemmas 6–8.

First, we note that kernel $K_0(t, \tau)$ (6) also has the property, similar properties 3) of kernel $K(t, \tau)$ (2)–(4). This property follows from Lemma 5.

Lemma 5 *If $\omega > 1/2$, then $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0_0} \int_0^t K_0(t, \tau) d\tau = 1$.*

Further, if we introduce a following notations

$$P^{(1)}(t, \tau) = \frac{t^\omega + \tau^\omega}{2a\sqrt{\pi}(t - \tau)^{3/2}}, \quad P_0(t, \tau) = \frac{2a\sqrt{\pi}(2\omega - 1)^{3/2} t^{4\omega-3}}{(t^{2\omega-1} - \tau^{2\omega-1})^{3/2}},$$

$$Q^{(1)}(t, \tau) = \frac{(t^\omega + \tau^\omega)^2}{4a^2(t - \tau)}, \quad Q_0(t, \tau) = \frac{2\omega - 1}{4a^2} \frac{(t^{2\omega-1} + \tau^{2\omega-1})^2}{t^{2\omega-1} - \tau^{2\omega-1}},$$

then

$$K_0(t, \tau) = P_0(t, \tau) e^{-Q_0(t, \tau)}; \quad K^{(1)}(t, \tau) = P^{(1)}(t, \tau) e^{-Q^{(1)}(t, \tau)}.$$

Lemma 6 If $\omega > 1/2$, then $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \int_0^t K_1(t, \tau) d\tau = 0$. In addition, we have the following estimate

$$|K_1(t, \tau)| \leq C(\omega) \frac{t^{\omega-1}}{\sqrt{t-\tau}} e^{-\tilde{Q}(t, \tau)} \quad (C(\omega) = \text{const}),$$

where

$$\tilde{Q}(t, \tau) = \min\{Q_0(t, \tau); \frac{1}{2}Q^{(1)}(t, \tau)\}.$$

Lemma 7 We have the following estimates:

$$\begin{aligned} |P_0(t, \tau) - P^{(1)}(t, \tau)| &\leq C_2(\omega) \frac{t^{\omega-1}}{\sqrt{t-\tau}}, \\ P^{(1)}(t, \tau) \left| Q_0(t, \tau) - Q^{(1)}(t, \tau) \right| \exp\{-Q^{(1)}(t, \tau)\} &\leq C_3(\omega) \frac{t^{2\omega-1}}{\sqrt{t-\tau}} \exp\left\{-\frac{Q^{(1)}(t, \tau)}{2}\right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 8 If $\omega > 1/2$, then

$$\left| K^{(2)}(t, \tau) \right| \leq C_6(\omega) \frac{t^{\omega-1}}{\sqrt{t-\tau}} \exp\left\{-C_7(\omega)t^{2(\omega-1)}(t-\tau)\right\},$$

where functions $C_6(\omega)$ and $C_7(\omega)$ are constants continuous depending on the parameter $\omega > 1/2$.

From Lemmas 5-8 it follows directly that for equation (1) equation (5) is characteristic.

SOLVING THE CHARACTERISTIC EQUATION (5)

In equation (5) we make following changes of the independent variables (recall that $\gamma = 2\omega - 1$)

$$t = [\gamma t_1]^{-1/\gamma}, \quad \tau = [\gamma \tau_1]^{-1/\gamma},$$

and introduce notations ($0 < \tau_1 < t_1 < \infty$):

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(t_1) &= t_1^{\frac{\gamma/2-1}{\gamma}} \varphi([\gamma t_1]^{-1/\gamma}), \quad F_1(t_1) = t_1^{\frac{\gamma/2-1}{\gamma}} F([\gamma t_1]^{-1/\gamma}), \\ k_0(t_1 - \tau_1) &= \frac{1}{2a\sqrt{\pi}(\tau_1 - t_1)^{3/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{4a^2(\tau_1 - t_1)}\right). \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

Then equation (5) can be written as

$$\mu(t_1) - \lambda \int_{t_1}^{\infty} k_0(t_1 - \tau_1) \mu(\tau_1) d\tau_1 = F_1(t_1), \quad 0 < t_1 < \tau_1 < \infty. \quad (10)$$

We have studied the equation (10) in work [2-4]. Therefore from the results [4] we have that the solution of characteristic integral equation (5) is determined as follows (where $\gamma = 2\omega - 1$):

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(t) &= t^{\gamma/2-1} \mu([\gamma t]^{-1}) = t^{\gamma/2-1} F(t) + \lambda t^{\gamma/2-1} \int_0^t \tau^{-\gamma-1} \mathbf{r}_{\lambda-}([\gamma t]^{-1} - [\gamma \tau]^{-1}) F(\tau) d\tau \\ &+ t^{\gamma/2-1} \sum_{k=-N_1}^{N_2} c_k \exp(-iz_k[\gamma t]^{-1}), \quad t \in \mathbf{R}_+, \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where

$$\mathbf{r}_{\lambda-}(\theta) = 2 \sum_{k=-\infty}^{-(N_1+1)} \sqrt{iz_k} \exp(-iz_k \theta) + 2 \sum_{k=N_2+1}^{\infty} \sqrt{iz_k} \exp(-iz_k \theta) + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi}(-\theta)^{3/2}} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{m}{\lambda^m} \exp\left(\frac{m^2}{4\theta}\right),$$

$$\operatorname{Re}(iz_k) < 0, |\lambda| > 1, \theta \in \mathbf{R}_-, \quad (12)$$

the numbers $N_1, N_2, \{z_k, k \in \mathbf{Z}\}$ are defined by formulas

$$N_1 = \left\lceil \frac{\ln|\lambda| + \arg \lambda}{2\pi} \right\rceil, N_2 = \left\lceil \frac{\ln|\lambda| - \arg \lambda}{2\pi} \right\rceil, \quad (13)$$

$$z_k = 2(\arg \lambda + 2k\pi) \ln|\lambda| - i [\ln^2 |\lambda| - (\arg \lambda + 2k\pi)^2]. \quad (14)$$

Formula (13) follows from the boundedness of the solutions of homogeneous conditions (5), which is equivalent to the condition $\operatorname{Re}\{iz_k\} \geq 0$ for roots z_k defined by formula (14). The number of such roots will always be the end! Detailed calculations are in [4].

Thus we have proved the following theorem.

Theorem 9 *General solution of the characteristic integral equation (5) has representation (11).*

Substituting in integral equation (11) the expression for $F(t)$ according to formulas (7)–(8), we obtain an equation:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(t) = & t^{\gamma/2-1} f(t) - \lambda t^{\gamma/2-1} \int_0^t [K_0(t, \tau) - K^{(1)}(t, \tau) + K^{(2)}(t, \tau)] \varphi(\tau) d\tau \\ & + \lambda t^{\gamma/2-1} \int_0^t \tau^{-\gamma-1} \mathbf{r}_{\lambda-}([\gamma t^\gamma]^{-1} - [\gamma \tau^\gamma]^{-1}) \left\{ f(\tau) - \lambda \int_0^\tau [K_0(\tau, \tau_1) - K^{(1)}(\tau, \tau_1) \right. \\ & \left. + K^{(2)}(\tau, \tau_1)] \varphi(\tau_1) d\tau_1 \right\} d\tau + t^{\gamma/2-1} \sum_{k=-N_1}^{N_2} c_k \exp(-iz_k [\gamma t^\gamma]^{-1}), \quad t \in \mathbf{R}_+, \end{aligned}$$

which can be rewritten as

$$\varphi(t) - \lambda t^{\gamma/2-1} \int_0^t \widehat{\mathbf{K}}(t, \tau) \varphi(\tau) d\tau = t^{\gamma/2-1} \widehat{f}(t) + t^{\gamma/2-1} \sum_{k=-N_1}^{N_2} c_k \exp(-iz_k [\gamma t^\gamma]^{-1}), \quad t \in \mathbf{R}_+, \quad (15)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\mathbf{K}}(t, \tau) &= \widetilde{\mathbf{K}}(t, \tau) + \lambda \int_\tau^t \eta^{-\gamma-1} \mathbf{r}_{\lambda-}([\gamma t^\gamma]^{-1} - [\gamma \eta^\gamma]^{-1}) \widetilde{\mathbf{K}}(\eta, \tau) d\eta, \\ \widetilde{\mathbf{K}}(t, \tau) &= -K_0(t, \tau) + K^{(1)}(t, \tau) - K^{(2)}(t, \tau), \\ \widehat{f}(t) &= f(t) + \lambda \int_0^t \tau^{-\gamma-1} \mathbf{r}_{\lambda-}([\gamma t^\gamma]^{-1} - [\gamma \tau^\gamma]^{-1}) f(\tau) d\tau. \end{aligned}$$

Function $\mathbf{r}_{\lambda-}(\theta)$ is determined by formula (12).

Note that Lemmas 1–8 justify the Carleman-Vekua regularization method [5] for integral equation (5), i.e., we obtain a following result.

MAIN RESULT

Theorem 10 *Integral equation (15) for any*

$$t^{3/2-\omega} f(t) \in L_\infty(0, \infty)$$

has a unique solution

$$\varphi(t) = t^{3/2-\omega} \varphi(t) \in L_\infty(0, \infty).$$

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